AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) and (b) The State Governments of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu are reported to have received representations from the private professional colleges expressing their difficulties and inability to admit students in accordance with the procedure laid down by the State Governments in the light of the Scheme laid down by the Supreme Court in their Judgement of 4-2-1993 in Unni Krishnan's case. Apart from pursuading the private managements to follow the procedure laid down by the State Governments the State Governments are committed to ensure truthful implementation of the Supreme Court Scheme which has already prescribed the parameters & methodology for admissions and fee structure in private professional colleges.

**Early childhood care and learning facilities to children**

1618. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that nearly 90 per cent of Indian children in the 3—6 years age group have no access to early childhood care and learning facilities; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to ensure that care and proper learning facilities reach the majority of the country's children ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT) (SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : (a) and (b) No, Sir. A large number of child population in the age group of 3—6 years (about 587 lakhs) have access to early childhood care and learning facilities in Government funded and privately managed child care centres. More than 100 lakhs children have access to early childhood care and learning facilities through various programmes of the Government of India such as Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Creches, Early Childhood Education, Balawadi Nutrition Programme etc. During 1992-93, 300 additional ICDS projects have been sanctioned. It is proposed to expand the scheme further during the current year in 200 Community Development Blocks.

**Epigraphical survey of languages**

1619. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of inscriptions in Prakrit, Sanskrit, Dravadian, Persian and Arabic Languages in different part of the country copied and decipherd during the last three years by the Epigraphical Survey, language wise under the Department of Archaeology;

(b) how many out of them were from the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra and how many from the rest of Maharashta and

(c) what steps are being taken for increasing the efficiency of the Epigraphical Survey ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Six inscriptions during the year 1990-91 and 19 inscriptions during the year 1992-93 have been copied in Maharashtra by the Epigraphy Branch of Archaeological Survey of India. However, no inscription has been copied from Vidarbha region.

(c) Archaeological Survey of India has established two sub-offices at Jhansi and Madras for Epigraphical Survey of the northern and southern regions respectively.

**Statement**

The number of inscriptions in Prakrit, Sanskrit, Dravidian, Local Dialect and Arabic and Persian languages copied and deciphered from different parts of the country during the last three years by the Directorate of Epigraphy are given below yearwise :

(Abbreviations used : PR = Prakrit, S = Sanskrit
D = Dravidian, L.D. = Local Dialect,
A and P = Arabic and Persian)